School Counts! FAQ'S

Start Now to Improve Tomorrow!

A Parent's Guide To

Q. What can my child do with his or her certificate?

Students can present their certificate(s) to any participating employer and request an interview for a current job opening. Please visit http://www.cccnj.edu/schoolCounts/scEmployment for the latest job announcements.

Q. Who is eligible for the School Counts! scholarship?

Students must be a resident of Cumberland County and obtain all 4 *School Counts!* certificates from a participating high school.

Q. What are the Scholarship guidelines?

Students must enroll at Cumberland County College and maintain a full-time, degree-seeking status to receive *School Counts!* Scholarships.

Students must apply for and if applicable use Financial Aid, Pell grants, and other eligible grant scholarship monies (Including NJ Stars) each semester prior to using the *School Counts!* Scholarship. All other funding is applied toward the tuition credits first. If no other funding applies, School Counts will pick up the 15 college level tuition credits each fall and spring semester.

Students must maintain a minimum of a "C" average in <u>every</u> course and maintain a full-time status of 12 credits or more each semester to continue to receive the *School Counts!* Scholarship.

Q. What exactly does School Counts! cover?

School Counts! Scholarships cover the cost of fifteen (15) college -level tuition credits per Fall and Spring Semesters, not including fees, books, or remedial classes, for two consecutive years-60 credit hour limit.

Q. How long does my child have to use the scholarship?

Students may defer the *School Counts!* Scholarship for up to one year if Cumberland County College is the first college to which the student is admitted.





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http://www.cccnj.edu/schoolcounts





Invest In Your Child's Future With School Counts!

We All Win with School Counts!

Through School Counts!, high school students can earn a certificate every year indicating that they are workforce ready. Students earn certificates by attending school regularly, achieving above average grades, accomplishing more than the minimum graduation requirements and graduating on time.

Students can present their *School Counts!* Certificates to over 450 area businesses who are participating with in the program. This shows employers that your child is punctual, hardworking and motivated.

Many business partners in your community see your child as a valuable citizen, and their commitment to this program helps pave the way for a positive and successful future!

Your child wins because they learn the job skills they will need when they enter the workforce. Employers win because they get better educated, skilled workers who are able to demonstrate their commitment and succeed on the job. Cumberland County wins because a skilled workforce provides exemplary services, and keeps and attracts businesses.

You win because as parents you are helping shape your child into future responsible and hardworking adults.

<u>The community wins</u> because a call to action throughout the community can help to ensure that we will do our part to make life better in Cumberland County. *School Counts!* stands for everything that is right in our community—believing in each other and our future generations and making a difference.

Champion Your Kids to Success

What You As Parents Can Do To Promote School Counts!

- 1. Remind them each year to apply for the School Counts! Program
- Encourage your child to arrive at School every day on time.
- 3. Inspire your child to go above and beyond in their schoolwork.
- 4. Motivate your child to be good citizens in and out of School.
- 5. Support Your Child in getting the help they need to maintain a C or better in all of their classes.
- 6. Communicate with the High School Guidance Office if you have any questions.

The Cumberland County College Foundation views the *School Counts!* Program as a vital, countywide Program that will enrich the quality of life in our region. The Foundation has raised over \$2.9 million dollars to provide two-year tuition scholarships to county residents who earn four consecutive *School Counts!* certificates while in high school.

Imagine being part of a program that helps develop all of the positive characteristics needed for your child to succeed! *School Counts!* will help students understand that school performance is important and will help them to be successful in the future.

The best part, if your child earns all four certificates, they earn a two-year tuition scholarship to Cumberland County College. There they will receive a quality education while you save!

Cumberland County High School Participants

Bridgeton High School Cumberland Christian School Cumberland Regional High School Fairton Christian Center Academy Millville Memorial High School Millville Senior High School Our Lady of Mercy Academy Vineland High School

Students Apply for *School Counts!* at the beginning of each year in high school in their homerooms or are electronically enrolled through their guidance office. The deadline to apply is November 1st.

Encourage your child to apply, and motivate them each year to achieve the following:

- ⇒ Obtain a grade of "C" or better in every course
- ⇒ Achieve a 95% attendance and punctuality record
- ⇒ Complete high school in four consecutive years
- ⇒ Take more than the minimum required including Algebra I

Each year the criteria is met, your child will earn a *School Counts!* Certificate.

Students who are Cumberland County residents and earn four consecutive *School Counts!* certificates are eligible for a Cumberland County College Tuition Scholarship supported by the Cumberland County College Foundation.

For More Information, Please Contact the Guidance Director/School Counts! Liaison At Your High School.